464 workers. In the Five Year Plan the country needs 650,000 new workers for the realization of the tasks before it, and part of this tremendous number of workers is being trained by Ferenc Gergely and his fellow workers with affection and patience and the ambition to turn out skilled workers worthy of their masters.

462 Among Ferenc Gergely's apprentices the most skillful is Mrs. Istvan Kincses. She is a diligent and ingenious young woman who came to the capital from the country. For a while she busied herself at home, in her little household, but when she saw that all careers are open to women as well as to men and that no differences are made between men and women as far as work and wages are concerned —she decided to become a skilled worker. She has been [614] working with Ferenc Gergely for almost a year, and four times a week she attends evening classes of the Secondary School for Working People. This new type of school was instituted by the People's Democracy for those who in the past had no opportunity to study and now want to make up for lost time without, however, giving up their work.

Mrs. Kincses will soon be a skilled worker or even a stakhanovite, clever and ambitious as she is. Or a technician or even an engineer if she wins her matriculation certificate at the Workers' School and decides to continue with her studies. Her future is in her own hands. Women are no longer inferior, badly paid workers in Hungary, a kind of "ersatz-manpower," as they used to be in the past. She has the same rights and the same opportunities her male fellow workers have. There are tens of thousands of working women in every branch of industry, in every factory and plant, in transportation, in the offices and in public administration, in the fields of education, arts and sciences, who do their jobs and are paid the same as the men.

562 745 The people's state takes particular care of its working women. As provided by law, they are entitled to three months maternity leave with full pay, or, should their

14: Evans S-3 (1950) 1953 EC1 Hungary EC1

The Head of the Hungarian People's Republic shakes hands with the representative of the Bench of Catholic Bishops.

Preface

In September, 1951, I was privileged to be the guest of the Reformed Church of Hungary for 10 days. I was one of a delegation of French and British Ministers of Religion who had been invited to Hungary to see for themselves what the country was like. We visited schools, hospitals, universities, factories, farms and churches.

In one university—Miskolc—we saw about 200 of the builders, who had only started on the building the previous November, actually attending lectures as students of physics. They were most attentive to the lecturer. They looked somewhat glum

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when about half a dozen of us "padres" intruded on their work without a word of warning! When the interpreter informed them who we were, they exclaimed with joy the word "Peace." Wherever we went the people were thinking, speaking and praying for peace.

I visited the Hungarian House of Parliament and was delighted to see in their library of 260,000 volumes, including 10,000 theological books, one or two books from the pen of Dean Inge.

I lunched with Roman Catholic prelates and non-Roman bishops. They all testified to the freedom which religion enjoys in Hungary.

The overcrowded churches proved to us that there is new life in the people. I worshipped at the John Calvin Church in Budapest and heard Pastor Muraközi preach very powerfully on Jeremiah xviii, 1-8. The church seated about 1,500 and was full. The same evening I preached myself to a full church at Gödöllő.

At Debrecen we saw the famous Theological College that, according to the Basle *Nachrichten*, has been converted into a "Concentration Camp"! There were 172 students in residence and 18 were sitting their Entrance Examination that week.

There is no persecution of religion in Hungary. Roman Catholics and Jews worship freely, as they wish and where they wish. According to Canon Beresztóczy, the Roman Prelate who administers the See of Cardinal Mindszenty, five Roman Catholic Churches had been ordered to be built that month (September, 1951).

There is no persecution of science in Hungary. Professor József Varga, for instance, who was Professor of Science under the Horthy regime, is still Professor of Science under the present regime.

Throughout the entire country—and we motored hundreds of miles and spoke to dozens of people—I found full freedom to worship. Above all, I experienced an intense desire for peace. The motto of the people of Hungary may well be summed up in that adopted as a school motto at Gödöllő, namely, "A JÖVENDŐ A BÉKE EMBERÉÉ"—"The future belongs to the people of Peace."

The present pamphlet by the Rev. Stanley Evans sets out most vividly and compactly the position of the Churches in Hungary to-day. It is a masterly survey. I commend the work to the people of Britain and the English-speaking world.

W. Bryn Thomas,
Chairman of the British Hungarian Friendship Society

793 The Bishop, János Péter, said that all was going well there.
[771] The outstanding problem was church re-education, the retraining that is to say of church workers, so that they would be really effective in a situation that was vastly different from the one in which they had received their training, and courses were therefore being run both for clergy and for lay workers. Their theological approach, he said, was in general a complex of Karl Barth and Ragaz.*

[874] The Reformed Church now has four theological colleges and four secondary schools. Its clergy were now swinging over to the cause of peace although in their general social outlook they tended to be conservative. The conservative elements as such had few constructive suggestions to offer in the present situation and so more and more the effective leadership of the church was passing into the hands of more progressive pastors.

Questioned about the Lutheran Bishop Ordass, who was released from prison before completing his sentence, Bishop Péter said that he was living in his bishop's house on a pension while his successor as bishop continued to live in his former parish. Ordass himself could have a parish if he wanted one.

346 874 The Reformed Church buildings dominate the centre of Debrecen. The cathedral is a large building of the last century and, following Calvinist custom, is rather bare. The large hymnary in the pulpit is of the new, 1948 edition. The college (where the National Assembly met in 1848 and 1945) was started in the sixteenth century, although, while some of its buildings go back to the seventeen century, most of them are of later date. It is an extremely large building and houses both the Theological College and the Boys' Secondary School. The theological course lasts five years with a further one year of practical work in parishes. There are at present 100 pupils at the college. At the time of my visit they were engaged in the work of the annual "Congregation" or meeting in which both staff and students participated, all being free to express their point of view. One of the professors was extremely eager to hear of current developments in New Testament studies in Britain.

771 In Budapest Bishop Bereczky said that the church revival, which had been discussed in a previous visit in 1949, had developed not only in small, zealous groups, but in the whole church and most of the ministers have been reinvigorated. More and more do they understand that the service of the church in a socialist country can only come from those who have some knowledge and appreciation of socialism.

874 The bishop said that the theological schools were a very bright part of the picture and his views were borne out on a subsequent visit with him and its principal to the Calvin College in Budapest. Certainly nobody could have seemed happier than the theological

* The Swiss Christian Socialist.

874 students whose rooms showed the customary diverse interests of of youth—in learning, sport and the girl at home. Their opportunities of learning here are considerable because, apart from lectures, the library is quite outstanding and is as well equipped with modern literature as it is with Calvin and De Beza first editions and early Hungarian Bibles.

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Bishop János Péter, member of the World Council of Peace.

794 One of the most outstanding achievements of the Hungarian 204 Protestant Churches is their Church Press. They run separate church newspapers but they maintain a combined Church Press Office which issues periodical bulletins in English and German but whose most important work is the regular supply of church news to all the Hungarian Press both national and local. The Reformed Church itself has a number of papers; its weekly *Az Út* (The Way) has a 12,000 edition, the fortnightly *Református Egyház* (The Reformed Church) prints 2,000, and for the work of evangelisation there is the 32-page *Református Krónika* (Reformed Chronicle). There are other similar papers such as the Debrecen *Vasárnap* (Sunday). Two bulletins are also published: the *Church Courier* and *Hungarian Church Press*.

[i.e. Calvin College in Budapest--Analyst]

214 Papers, of course, are not the only publishing activity. Bibles
794 are published by the Bible Committee of the Hungarian Protestant Churches. In 1949 they disposed of 30,000 Bibles. In 1950 it was 15,000 up till the end of August, the rate of distribution slowing down as people are now awaiting a new translation on which an Old Testament Committee is working, the New Testament being nearly completed. (The current translation is of 1911.) Again 30,000 hymn books were distributed in 1949 and more than 15,000 by September, 1950. Books and pamphlets are published in considerable quantities, Turneiser's *Cry of the Soul* is one of the more recent. Separate school text books have been published for each of the eight school classes. The Church Calendar is produced in 55,000 copies; *Az Utitáes* (The Companion) is issued as a guide to daily Bible reading; Karl Barth's *Dogmatics* and *Gospel and Law* have been issued, as have works by Bereczky and Péter; there was a special pamphlet on the Holy Year and another against anti-semitism.

794 The Protestant Churches also attach considerable importance
[207] to the broadcasting time which is allotted to them. The Reformed Church has a fortnightly half-hour and every eighth week it broadcasts a full mission service. Its leaders also broadcast from time to time on other programmes. Since October they have also been given a half hour in both Hungarian and English on the short-wave programmes. Other churches have equivalent facilities although in October, 1950, the Catholics were still not availing themselves of their time.

The Reformed Church also has its own charity service and maintains 12 homes for orphans, four homes for old people, one home for epileptics, a mental hospital and a nursing home. These institutions are run by the central administration of the church. There are also others run by its local bodies. A special Sunday at the end of October was devoted to collections in all churches for the maintenance of these institutions. Every district church also maintains a church institute.

795 The situation in the Lutheran Church was explained by Bishop Dezséry, the successor to Bishop Ordass. The Lutherans, he said, have about 500,000 people. They are organised in four districts, each with a bishop. There are 21 deacons and 320 congregations. The largest is Budapest with 75,000 people. It is essentially a " diaspora " church (that is to say, scattered) and in remote places simply organised into pastoral circles.

874 The Lutheran Theological College is at Sopron and has about 100 students, 15 of whom were new this year. It runs a five-year course but is considering reducing it to four years. Latin, Greek
794 and Hebrew are compulsory. Lutheran publications include the
204 weekly *Evangélikus Elet* (Lutheran Life) 12,000 copies, the monthly *Lélek Pástos* (The Pastor) for pastors, and a weekly

Pensions of war veterans and war widows.

647 Special cases resulting from the war are taken into
729 consideration by the social policy. Those civil servants who became disabled while on active service during the war receive pensions regardless of the length of time spent in the service. The widows of civil servants who died while serving in the army receive pensions. During the first world war there were no such regulations in force.

Hungarian and Roumanian pension systems.

000 For the sake of comparison we may mention that the Roumanian state, in 1940, gave a very small pension to those who had been retired a long time ago. When the Transylvanian territory was reunited with Hungary, the pension system was reorganized according to the Hungarian laws. Some instances showed that the former Roumanian pensions were almost 200% lower. Furthermore, the Roumanian pension law did not give pensioners allowances for children. Thus the establishment of the Hungarian pension system was a very welcome change, especially to those with children.

Student welfare.

657 The second most acute problem created by the post-
● 874 war crises was the plight of the educated young Hungarians. In the beginning, when aid could only be given intermittently and within narrow limits, the Government spent as much as possible on the support of university students by direct aid. At the time of the world-wide depression this problem became acute. It became possible by then to aid student welfare by collective measures. The impor-

15: Kárpáti G-3 (no date) 1943 EC1 Hungary EC1

tance of this problem is illustrated by the following figures: in 1914 there were 8700 university students, in 1918 there were 10,000, and during the past year 18,000 students were enrolled in Hungarian universities.

Before the first world war no active state organization for the welfare of university students existed. Thousands of students had to resume their studies after the war impoverished and without the hope of outside help, as the funds of the various student organizations and foundations had depreciated almost to nothing. Owing to the dismemberment of the country the seats of the universities of Pozsony and Kolozsvár were transferred to Hungary. The university of Debrecen faced serious financial difficulties. First the student body tried to solve its problems independently. Finally, in 1923, the Government came to its aid and ordered that "closing time fees" paid by commercial establishments should be diverted to pay for student welfare expenditures. In 1937 the Government established the Horthy Miklós Scholarship Fund, which gives financial assistance to gifted but needy students. In the budget of 1943 half a million pengős were earmarked for this purpose. Students' homes were established in Budapest, Szeged, Debrecen and in Pécs. After the territory of the country had grown and the number of university students increased, the Government organized in both Budapest and Szeged two new students' homes, and one in Újvidék.

The collective assistance and vocational guidance of the younger generation was promoted most effectively by the ADOB. This institution has provided jobs for thousands of university graduates since 1934, and has made available enough educated men to accomplish the increased tasks resulting from the enlargement of the country.

Solving student problems.

874 657 The Government is always interested in the question of replacements. This socially important task is being solved progressively and on a broad basis At nation-wide competitive examinations the gifted children of the rural districts are chosen, and out of these, 600 are sent each year to high-schools. There are 73 such high-schools in different parts of the country, and more than 80% of the children finish their studies with very high marks. Undoubtedly this innovation opens the way to social betterment and will ensure the replenishment of the intellectual classes through institutional selection of the talented.

The extent to which the problems of the educated classes are being solved is illustrated by the following figures: the Ministry of Education and Religion spent 149,500 pengős in 1924, and in 1943 three and a half million pengős have been allocated for student welfare purposes. Since 1920 twenty million pengős were spent by the Government on scholarships, student relief, assisting student homes and student welfare organizations. The student welfare problems are dealt with by a special department of the Ministry of Education and Religion, and a national board co-ordinates the work of the various youth groups and organizations.

Results achieved by public education.

871 We may mention here — as this is one of the salient features of social progress — results achieved by the educational policy of the Government in connection with the masses during the last twenty years. A remarkable number of new schools, scientific institutions and courses of instruction

9: Pool S-4 (no date) 1954 E1 Europe
Hungary EC1

Hungary's one and only military academy was the Ludovika in Budapest, but it was not unusual for Hungarian boys to have attended military academies in Austria. Candidates graduated as a rule as second lieutenants at the age of about twenty-one.[35] Military academies could be entered after completion of secondary school or military secondary school. A parallel sequence of training was that in the cadet schools both in Hungary and Austria, which were attended by students in the fourteen to eighteen age groups. The graduates of these emerged as "third lieutenants" at the age of about eighteen. Technical officers were often sent—usually as first lieutenants—to technical universities, where they gained civilian degrees.

Before 1918 staff officers were trained in the Vienna Staff College and during the war at various staff courses. After the Treaty of Trianon, Hungarian staff officer candidates attended the new Budapest Staff College. Graduates had to serve a brief trial period as staff officers and were then given the title "of the General Staff" affixed to their rank. They served as a rule from time to time as field officers thus interrupting their staff service. As staff officers or staff officer candidates, they spent several months abroad assigned to a foreign army unit on special duty and it was compulsory for them to master at least two foreign languages, one of them German. The priority sequence was German, French, English, Italian, Czech and Slovak, Serbo Croat, Romanian.

Almost all generals came from the ranks of these officers "of the General Staff" with the exception of a very few of the lowest ranking generals, major generals. In the early 1920's it became a rule that only general staff officers could rise to the rank of general. A very few exceptions occurred, however, during World War II.

Thus we see that, with perhaps one or two exceptions, all members of the military elite chose a military career before the age of eighteen. They were then put through a common course of training and belonged to a common select group of staff officers. After retirement they often continued to play an important elite role. Some retired generals were appointed by the Regent as members of the upper house and/or privy counsellors. The Commander in Chief of the army and, after the abolition of this post, the Chief of General Staff, were ex-officio members of the upper house. Generals in the Regent's entourage remained, after retirement, unofficially his military advisers. Some had more influence on high level military policy after their retirement than any officers on the active list.

Furthermore, the only way to reach this influential status was through the normal channels of promotion. Direct commissions were unknown in the prewar Hungarian Army. Every officer began his career as a lieutenant. There were rigid rules of promotion according to seniority and efficiency rating. Priority by virtue of efficiency rating was limited—below the rank of colonel—to a maximum of five years over the normal seniority scale. Extraordinary promotions